

the MESSENGER



COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

JULY 2020

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Hello and Thank You from Steve and Karen Allison,

Apollo 11 was the spaceflight that first landed humans on the Moon. Commander Neil Armstrong and Lunar Module Pilot Buzz Aldrin formed the American crew that landed the Apollo Lunar Module Eagle on July 20, 1969. When they finally arrived on the moon after months and months of preparation, Neil Armstrong famously said "the eagle has landed" and that's how we feel. After months and months of preparation, we have landed.

Our home base was in Earlham, Iowa for the last 20 plus years and we watched our children grow up and move on from there. Then God made a way for us to begin planning a new adventure in a brand new place! At first, the idea of going from the safety of home off to a new place was a bit overwhelming; but God kept taking away fears and obstacles. The Lord provided servants to help with both emotional comfort and all the physical work of moving. God has clearly been in all of this.

Karen and I want to say thank you to all of you who helped us load trucks, unload trucks, and unpack. Ryan, Laura, Jacob, Seth, Nathan, Kellan Schmidt. Wayne and Cathy Lotz, Jerry Dufur, Roger and Connie Curry, Hannah Herrman, and Gail Horst. Your many hands helped guide us in for touchdown; and our new adventure begins.

So maybe you're asking "why the space reference"? Because all of these transitions have been in the new COVID 19 world, or total new world feel. I find myself asking how does a church lead, grow, reach out, and show love in this new world? How do you encourage people to invite their friends to come to church or join a group in a world where gathering is at the root of spreading something bad? It feels a little bit like Apollo 13 that had limited resources and a big problem. They had to figure it out and make do with what they had right where they were and there were no excuses... only results.

This is where we have landed...all of us (church family). A new world that still needs salvation, a Savior, Helper, and Friend. God will help his church land in a new place in a new way. He will help us reach out in new ways, see in new ways, and love in new ways. Together as a church we can make Jesus famous in the greater Port Byron area. I believe that is why God has had me land here. To be a part of a new adventure in a new land to do great things for His kingdom.

My prayer is that you will be up for this new mission as well. I would love to hear from you. In the tradition of flight and space travel, radio communication, or whenever communication is made and heard... the proper response is "Roger That". If you have read this and will join me (with the church family) on this mission, would text me right now? Simply text me "Roger That" at (515) 971-0861. Add your name so I can enter you into my contacts as we lift off on the mission of sharing Jesus in our community.

*Blessings,
Steve*



Steve Allison

*"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."
1 Cor. 15:58*

GROWING TOGETHER



Our small groups are starting to meet in person again!! If you are not part of a small group, you are welcome at either of these!



Roger and Connie Curry

21525 49th Ave. N.
Port Byron, IL 61275
309.523.2504

Meets at 6:00pm every
Wednesday night at their home
in Port Byron.



Wayne and Cathy Lotz

22435 Longbrook Dr.
Geneseo, IL 61254
309.944.4082

Meets at 7:00pm every
Wednesday night at their home
in Geneseo.

DONATE BLOOD – SAVE A LIFE!

EVANGELISM HIGHLIGHT

BLOOD DRIVE



DATE/TIME:

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2020 7:30AM – 12:00PM

LOCATION:

**COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (IN THE GYM)
3817 230TH ST N, PORT BYRON, IL 61275**

COVID requirements:

Every person must wear a mask. One will be provided to you if you do not have one. Also, reservations are required to maintain social distancing requirements. **Please call the church office to schedule your appointment.**

(309-523-2834)

All presenting donors will receive a voucher for a gift card to Amazon.com, Casey's, Walmart, Subway, or a variety of other stores. Snacks are provided. If you have any questions, call the number above or email:

cccportbyron@gmail.com.



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

How life flows through our community.®

WWW.COUNTRYSIDECC.ORG

CELEBRATING TOGETHER

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT



It's a
BOY

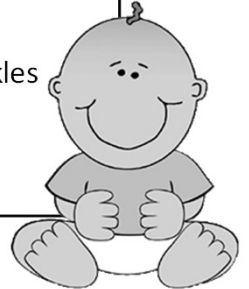
Paul LaRoy Mikles

Proud Parents: Paul & Mikah Mikles

Big Sister: Pearl

Born April 21, 2020

9lbs. 15 oz.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the baby shower baskets for the Mikles family and the Trout family. And thank you Becki Winger for putting it all together and delivering them! Meet the newest little ones in our church family! We are so excited for both families!

It's a
BOY

Dylan Jacob Trout

Proud Parents: Tim & Holly Trout

Big Sister: Erin

Born May 26, 2020

6lbs 8.7oz



"From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sound of rejoicing. I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honor, and they will not be disdained."

Jeremiah 30:19

MISSION HIGHLIGHT

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Lincoln Christian University



“Lincoln Bible Institute, ‘LBI’ was born in the mind and heart of Earl C. Hargrove in 1944 as the result of a God-given vision. From the very beginning unto this very day, countless people have sacrificially provided the resources to carry out this God-given vision of supplying dedicated and well-trained workers for the Kingdom.” (Sept. newsletter)

Lincoln Christian University (initially Lincoln Bible Institute, then Lincoln Christian College and Seminary, now Lincoln Christian University) was launched on May 4, 1944, to help prepare people to carry out God’s effort through the church. For decades, LCU has trained servant leaders to serve the church and world. Mr. Hargrove, LCU’s founding president, stated: “We need Kingdom workers.” In addition to supplying churches with preachers, LCU has trained worship ministers, youth ministers, church secretaries, Christian education directors, small group leaders, elders, Sunday school teachers, mission committee members and a host of other roles in the church. We are thrilled that God has used so many who took classes at LCU to help build His Church.



For nearly 75 years, LCU has been educating Kingdom-minded leaders to serve in the church and the world. More than 16,000 have studied there. Hundreds of men and women are currently studying at Lincoln Christian University, learning how best to communicate the Word of God to this generation and the next.



The spring of 2020 brought about unexpected changes due to the Corona virus. Classes on campus were suspended at spring break and became learning virtually. The spring brought a new

president to LCU as Don Green retired. Silas McCormick became the new President. Plans for classes this coming fall are being evaluated in response to the virus restrictions.

Countryside Christian Church offers scholarships to students attending full time at LCU or other Christian Universities. Currently LCU provided interim ministers to us during our time of our preacher search. We are so grateful for this assistance.



“Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.” 1 Chronicles 16:11

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHT

MEETING TOGETHER

In Isaiah 43:19, God proclaims, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (NIV). God's process of creating is active and ongoing, meaning there's always something new for us to notice, grasp and learn.



This month we learned to do some new things....we held church in the parking lot for two weeks and then we ventured indoors on Father's Day Sunday for the first time. Our service looked a little different as we modified things for social distancing but we were all so excited to gather together once again!

We are still continuing to post the services online and we have offered a separate venue in the gym for a child-friendly service.

We look forward to growing in our worship and continuing to meet with one another. I love this quote from Thomas Merton in *No Man is an Island*,

"God's will is not an abstraction. It is a living concrete reality in the lives of [people], and our souls are created to burn as flames within his flame. The will of the Lord is not a static center drawing our souls blindly toward itself. It is a creative power, working everywhere, giving life and being and direction to all things, and above all forming and creating, in the midst of an old creation, a whole new world which is called the Kingdom of God."



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

YTD Offering Income

Budget: \$97,500
Actual: \$80,118.54

YTD Faith Promises

\$6,101



Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,
That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,”
Says the Lord of hosts,
“If I will not open for you the windows of heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive it.
And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes,
So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground,
Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,
Says the Lord of hosts.

~Malachi 3:10-11



Windows of Heaven

God says that when we tithe it unlocks something in the spiritual realm that enables God to start taking action on our behalf. The first thing that happens is that God is able to open up the windows of heaven and begin to pour additional financial blessing into our lives if we're willing to receive it.

That's huge. I mean God is blessing us all the time. He even blesses the ungodly in spite of themselves (Matt 5:45).

But when we tithe to our local church we allow God to supercharge His blessing over our finances. It enables Him to bring increase to our finances in ways that we would never expect.

5 WAYS TO GIVE

- IN PERSON
- MAIL
- ONLINE
- MOBILE APP
- TEXT

Point your smartphone camera at the QR code to the right to be taken to the online giving site. From here you can choose to give online or via text



We sincerely appreciate your generosity in support of our church. Together, we will continue to do God's amazing work!

UPCOMING EVENTS



GRADUATION RECEPTION

Immediately following the worship service, we will have a short reception in the Church lobby to celebrate Hannah Herrman's graduation.



ELDERS' MEETING

9:00am



BLOOD DRIVE

7:30am – Noon in Church Gym. Please contact the church office to reserve your appointment.



FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Items for the month are due this Sunday and will be delivered to the Food Pantry this week.



"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

JULY Birthdays

- 4 – Camden Collis
- 4 – Brooke Heydeman
- 6 – Ruthie Coverdill
- 7 – Georgia Cullison
- 9 – Hannah Herrman
- 13 – Kayli Neer
- 15 – Connie Curry
- 17 – Harry Kohrt
- 21 – Kellan Schmidt
- 27 – Joyce Reiling

JULY Anniversaries

- 16 – Cathy & Wayne Lotz



"I don't think Hank wants to make the Crusades come alive for the kids. I think he's just afraid of the kids."

July

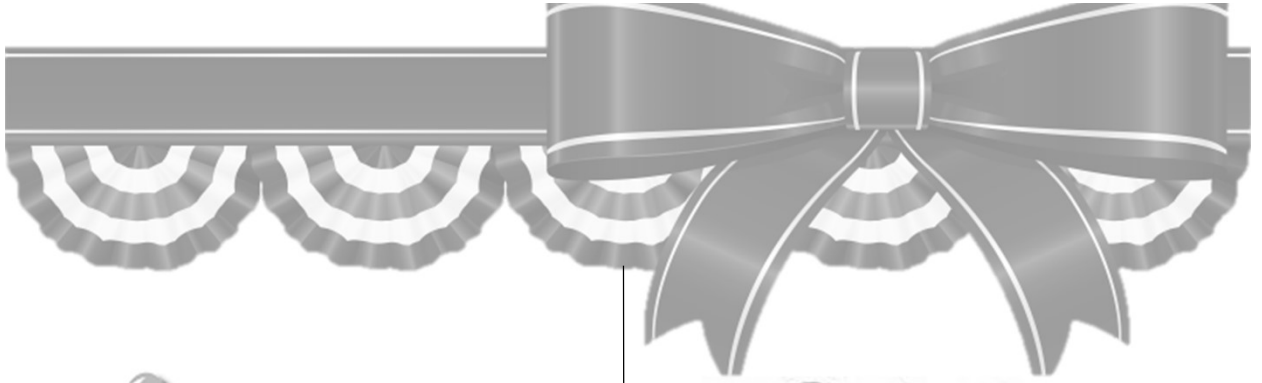
1. Psalms 109-111
2. Psalms 112-114
3. Psalms 115-118
4. Psalms 119
5. Psalms 120-123
6. Psalms 124-126
7. Psalms 127-129
8. Psalms 130-132
9. Psalms 133-135
10. Psalms 136-138
11. Psalms 139-141
12. Psalms 142-144
13. Psalms 145-147
14. Psalms 148-150
15. Proverbs 1-3
16. Proverbs 4-7
17. Proverbs 8-11
18. Proverbs 12-14
19. Proverbs 15-18
20. Proverbs 19-21
21. Proverbs 22-24
22. Proverbs 25-28
23. Proverbs 29-31
24. Ecclesiastes 1-3
25. Ecclesiastes 4-6
25. Ecclesiastes 7-9
27. Ecclesiastes 10-12
28. Song of Solomon 1-4
29. Song of Solomon 5-8
30. Isaiah 1-3
31. Isaiah 4-6



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!



NURSERY

No Nursery at this time. Please utilize the gym during the worship service for a simulcast and child-friendly activities

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

No Children's Church at this time. Please utilize the gym during the worship service for a simulcast and child-friendly activities

Building Cleaners

Jerry & Nancy Dufur
Rock & Sandy Lawrence
Kati Jo Chasek & Teresa Garcia



July 7

Wayne Lotz (Communion Meditation)

July 14

Don Vickroy (Communion Meditation)

July 21

Wayne Lotz (Communion Meditation)

July 28

Ryan Schmidt (Communion Meditation)

*At this time, there will be no offering or communion ushers needed.





WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.



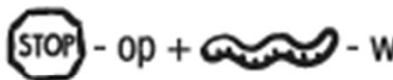
Water changes to

JOHN 2:1-11



Heals a man born

JOHN 9



Calms a

MATTHEW 8:23-27



Catch of

LUKE 5:1-11



Walks on

MATTHEW 14:22-33

KIDS CORNER

UNSEEN BUT active

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.

ANSWERS: wine, blind, storm, fish, water

"The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2

2020 JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			01 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	02	03	04 
05 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	06	07	08 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	09	10	11
12 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM <i>Graduation Reception following the Worship Service</i>	13	14 Elder's Meeting 9am	15 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	16	17	18 Church in Use
19 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	20	21	22 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	23	24	25 Blood Drive in Church Gym 7:30am -1pm  GIVE BLOOD SAVE LIFE
26 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM 	27	28	29 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	30	31	

LIVESTREAMING *with*



Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzpfUjEtP-A>



Facebook: www.facebook.com/countrysidecc.org at 10:45am.



Website. The sermon will be available in video or audio form on the church's website page <http://countrysidecc.org>



If you are not able to access the internet on your computer or mobile device, we will be able to download it to a DVD for you. Just contact the church office to obtain a copy.



Countryside Christian Church

3817 230th St. N

Port Byron, IL 61275